

and undeveloped land. Construction will take place on new alignment, north of the existing structure. As is required by the Farmland Protection Policy Act, the Form NRCS-AD-1006 (for point projects) has been completed according to FHWA guidelines. Since this project received a total point value of less than 160 points, this site falls below the NRCS minimal criteria and will not be evaluated further for farmland impacts. No other alternatives other than those already discussed in this document will be considered without a re-evaluation of the project's potential impacts upon farmland. This project will not have a significant impact to farmland.

The project will not have a disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effect on any minority or low-income population.

Noise & Air Quality

The project is located in Rockingham County, which has been determined to comply with the National Air Quality Standards. The proposed project is located in an attainment area; therefore, 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93 are not applicable. This project is not anticipated to create any adverse effects on the air quality of this attainment area.

This project will not result in any meaningful changes in traffic volume, vehicle mix, location of the existing facility, or any other factor that would cause an increase in emissions impacts relative to the no-build alternative. As such FHWA has determined that this project will generate minimal air quality impacts for Clean Air Act criteria pollutants and has not been linked with any special MSAT concerns. Consequently this effort is exempt from analysis for MSAT's.

Noise levels may increase during project construction; however, these impacts are not expected to be substantial considering the relatively short-term nature of construction noise and the limitation of construction to daytime hours. The transmission loss characteristics of nearby natural elements and man-made structures are believed to be sufficient to moderate the effects of intrusive construction noise.

VII. GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The project is expected to have an overall positive impact. Replacement of an inadequate bridge will result in safer traffic operations.

The bridge replacement will not have an adverse effect on the quality of the human or natural environment with the use of the current North Carolina Department of Transportation standards and specifications.

The proposed project will not require right-of-way acquisition or easement from any land protected under Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966.